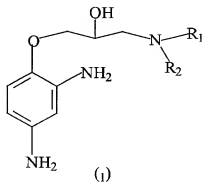


**ABSTRACT**

Couplers for hair coloring compositions for oxidative dyeing of hair are compounds of the formula (1):



where  $\text{R}_1$  and  $\text{R}_2$  are each individually selected from a hydrogen atom, a  $\text{C}_1$  to  $\text{C}_3$  alkyl group, a  $\text{C}_1$  to  $\text{C}_5$  mono or dihydroxyalkyl group; phenyl or benzyl optionally substituted with an alkoxy group, or  $\text{R}_1$  and  $\text{R}_2$  together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a piperazine, piperidine, imidazole, or morpholine ring.